## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kanji HATA et al.

Serial No. NEW

: Attn: Application Branch

Filed March 24, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 2000-0351

COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND COMPONENT MOUNTING EQUIPMENT (Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 09/010,490, Filed January 21, 1998)

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0675.

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 was previously cited by or submitted in parent application Serial No. 09/010,490, filed January 21, 1998.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
  - a. (X) within 3 months of the filing date of the aboveidentified application, or
    - ( ) within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of an International application, or ( ) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus:
    - (X) no certification and/or fee is required.
  - b. () after the events of above paragraph la and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:



- ( ) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided,  $\underline{\text{or}}$
- () a fee of \$240.00 is enclosed.
- c. () after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
  - ( ) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
  - () the Petition of paragraph 3 below is provided and \$130.00 fee therefor is enclosed.

## 2. It is hereby certified

- () that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- () that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. () Petition under 37 CFR 1.97 for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is hereby made.
- 4. () Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
- 5. () For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
  - () reference is made to an English language translation or abstract submitted herewith, and/or

- () reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- () reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- () reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s), and/or
- () reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
- 6. () Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
- 7. () Also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report citing these references.

Respectfully submitted,

Kanji HATA et al.

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Michael S. Huppert

Registration No. 40,268 Attorney for Applicants

MSH/kjf Washington, D.C. Telephone (202) 721-8200 March 24, 2000